

Application No. 09/989,351
Amendment A
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2003
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Attorney Docket No.: 717901.16

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A vehicle for travelling over grassland and similar terrain, said vehicle comprising a generally horizontal platform having attached to its underside two or more rotatable disks each having a lower surface adapted to contact the ground, wherein said platform comprises a first area on its upper side towards the front of said platform adapted to receive a first foot of a user, and a second area on its upper side towards the rear of said platform adapted to receive a second foot of the user, each of said two or more rotatable disks being arranged to rotate relative to the first and second areas of the platform about a generally vertical axis, the underside of each of said two or more rotatable disks being substantially convex in form.

2. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein said two or more rotatable disks are arranged along a longitudinal axis of said platform.

3. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein said vehicle has two rotatable disks arranged along a longitudinal axis of said platform.

4. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein said platform is resiliently pliable.

5. (Currently Amended): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said platform comprises a first area on its upper side towards the front of said platform adapted to receive one foot of the user, and a second area on its upper side towards the rear of said platform adapted to receive the other foot of the user,~~ said platform ~~comprising~~ comprises a central portion between said first and second areas adapted to flex resiliently about a lateral axis in the plane of said platform.

6. (Currently Amended): The vehicle according to Claim 5, wherein the first area of the platform is provided with a first rotatably mounted foot support member, and the second area of the platform is provided with a second rotatably mounted foot ~~support member,~~ support member, said first and second rotatably mounted foot support members being mounted for rotation independently from said two or more rotatable disks.

7. (Currently Amended): The vehicle according to Claim 6, wherein each foot support member is rotatably mounted such that its axis of rotation is substantially coincident with the axis of rotation of ~~a rotatable disk,~~ one of said two or more rotatable disks.

8. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 6, wherein said first and second foot support members are each provided with boot or shoe retention means.

9. (Currently Amended): The vehicle according to ~~Claim 1~~, Claim 5, wherein said central portion comprises a portion of said platform having a reduced cross-sectional area.

10. (Currently Amended): The vehicle according to ~~Claim 1~~, Claim 5, wherein the platform has a generally concave shape in a longitudinal direction in its unstressed state, such that the central portion of the platform is lower than the ends of the platform.

11. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the platform has a generally convex shape in a longitudinal direction in its unstressed state, such that the central portion of the platform is higher than the ends of the platform.

12. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein each of said two or more rotatable disks is supported on a spindle attached to the underside of said platform.

13. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 12, wherein said vehicle further comprises additional support means adapted to provide additional support for each of said two or more rotatable disks in addition to said spindle.

14. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 13, wherein said additional support means is a plurality of idler wheels.

15. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 13, wherein said additional support means is a plurality of rollers.

16. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein each of said two or more rotatable disks is supported by a support means selected from the group of support means comprising a plurality of idler wheels, a plurality of rollers, and a plurality of balls.

17. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein each of said two or more rotatable disks is solid.

18. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein each of said two or more rotatable disks is hollow, said upper surface of each of said two or more rotatable disks being substantially concave in form.

19. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 18, wherein said platform is shaped so as to follow the form of said concave upper surface of each of said two or more hollow rotatable disks.

20. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the lower surface of each of said two or more rotatable disks is substantially in the form of part of the surface of a sphere, an ellipsoid, a truncated cone, or a truncated toroid.

21. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 2, the axis of rotation of at least one of said rotatable disks being inclined in a first rotational sense about the longitudinal axis of the platform, and the axis of rotation of at least one other rotatable disk being inclined in an opposite rotational sense about the longitudinal axis of the platform.

22. (Previously Presented): The vehicle according to Claim 21, wherein the platform has attached to its underside three or more rotatable disks arranged along the longitudinal axis of said platform.